

Appl. No. 10/541,973  
Preliminary Amendment

### REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1 and 9 were amended to recite operating temperatures of the shift reactors and to remove functional language from the claims. The amendments are fully supported by the specification (e.g., Tables in Figures 3 and 6). No new matter is introduced by virtue of the amendments herein.

### REQUEST FOR ALLOWANCE

Claims 1-15 are pending in this application. The applicant requests allowance of all pending claims.

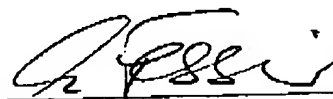
Respectfully submitted,

RUTAN & TUCKER

Date: 10/10/06

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